**Amendment to Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-72. (canceled)

73. (new) An amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate comprising a therapeutic compound conjugated to an oligomer, wherein the oligomer comprises a lipophilic moiety coupled to a hydrophilic moiety, and wherein the oligomer has the formula:

$CH_3(CH_2)_x(CH_2CH{=}CH)_y(CH_2)_zA(OC_2H_4)_m(OC_2H_4)_nE$

wherein

m = 1 to 6;

n = 0 or 1;

x = 0, 3 or 6;

y = 1, 2, 3 or 6;

z = 2, 3, 7 or 8;

A = single bond, CO or $CONHCH_2CH_2$; and

E = OH or $OCH_2COOH$.

74. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is a peptide or protein selected from the group consisting of: enkephalin, adrenocorticotropic hormone, adenosine deaminase ribonuclease, alkaline phosphatase, angiotensin, antibodies, arginase, arginine deaminease, asparaginase, caerulein, calcitonin, chymotrypsin, cholecystokinin, clotting factors, dynorphins, endorphins, enkephalins, erythropoietin, gastrin-releasing peptide, glucagon, hemoglobin, hypothalmic releasing factors, interferon, katacalcin, motilin, neuropeptide Y, neurotensin, non-naturally occurring opioids, oxytosin, papain, parathyroid hormone, prolactin, soluble CD-4, somatomedin, somatostatin, somatotropin, superoxide dismutase, thyroid stimulating hormone, tissue plasminogen activator, trypsin, vasopressin and analogues and active fragments thereof.

75. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate exhibits the biological activity of the therapeutic compound without cleavage of the therapeutic compound from the oligomer.

76. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate does not exhibit the biological activity of the therapeutic compound without cleavage of the therapeutic compound from the oligomer.

77. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the lipophilic moiety is coupled to the hydrophilic moiety by a hydrolyzable bond.

78. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the lipophilic moiety is coupled to the hydrophilic moiety by a non-hydrolyzable bond.

79. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the lipophilic moiety is coupled to the hydrophilic moiety by a bond selected from the group consisting of: amide bond, carbamate bond, carbonate bond and ester bond.

80. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the oligomer is coupled to the therapeutic compound by a bond selected from the group consisting of amide bond, carbamate bond, carbonate bond and ester bond.

81. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is a peptide having an added N-terminal residue selected from the group consisting of proline and alanine.

82. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is an opioid.

83. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is an enkephalin.

84. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is met$^5$-enkephalin **(SEQ ID NO:48)**.

85. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is met-enkephalin-lys **(SEQ ID NO:1)** and the oligomer has the formula:

$CH_3(CH_2)_x(CH_2CH{=}CH)_y(CH_2)_zA(OC_2H_4)_m(OC_2H_4)_nE$

wherein m = 1, n = 0, A = $CONHCH_2CH_2$, E = OH, x = 0, y = 6, and z = 2.

86. (new) The amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugate of claim 73, wherein the therapeutic compound is met-enkephalin-lys **(SEQ ID NO:1)** and the oligomer has the formula:

$CH_3(CH_2)_x(CH_2CH{=}CH)_y(CH_2)_zA(OC_2H_4)_m(OC_2H_4)_nE$

wherein m = 1, n = 0, A = $CONHCH_2CH_2$, E = OH, x = 3, y = 2, and z = 7.

**Election of Claims**

In the Office Action, the pending claims 1-22, 64 and 65 have been restricted as follows.

Group I-?: Claims 1-22, 64 and 65, drawn to amphiphilic drug-oligomer conjugates of various formulas, classified in class 530, subclass 402.

The Office Action further states that the Applicant is required to elect either one specific therapeutic compound from those listed in claims 5-7 and one specific oligomer formula from those listed in claims 15 and 18 or one specific amphiphilic oligomer-enkephalin conjugate from those listed in claims 20-22.

Pursuant to the telephone conference on November 18, 2003 that took place between applicants' attorney, Dr. Karen Wade, and Examiner Audet, applicants elect the therapeutic compounds of claim 5 as a Markush group and the oligomers of claim 18, which are rewritten as a general formula. Applicants provide new claims 73-86, which present the embodiments of original claims 1, 5 and 18 as rewritten herein.

Futhermore, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, non-naturally occurring opioids as a therapeutic compound and the following general formula for the oligomer: $CH_3(CH_2)_x(CH_2CH{=}CH)_y(CH_2)_zA(OC_2H_4)_m(OC_2H_4)_nE$, wherein m = 1 to 6; n = 0 or 1; x = 0, 3 or 6; y = 1, 2, 3 or 6; z = 2, 3, 7 or 8; A = single bond, CO or $CONHCH_2CH_2$; and E = OH or $OCH_2COOH$.